Client: Utah

Source: Kiteworld (Main)

Date: 01 February 2011

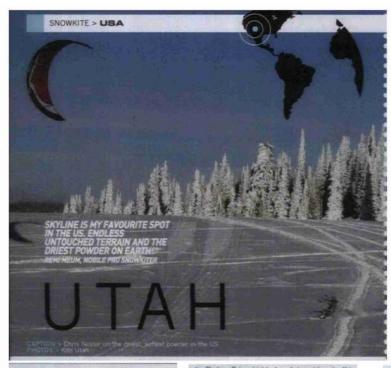
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THE LURE Skyline <u>Litah</u> is home to the US Open Snowkite Masters and holds the National title for Snowkite racing each year. There's easy access to the ridge-top snow and the breathtakingly dynamic landscape that has made Skyline a prime stop on any north American snowkite road trip. Miles of open terrain make this a high-altitude playground that welcomes wind from all directions.

THE SET-UP Big Drifts is the main spot here in Utah, offering flat areas for warming up and instructing with gentle slopes for hill climbing that are perfect for every ability of snowkiter. Parking is located at mile post 14 on Fairview Canyon Road. With so many miles of open terrain you can spend more time enjoying your sessions and less time avoiding the crowds.

Gooseberry is another spot with lighter conditions on storm days. Preferred parking is the paved lot at the junctions of Hwy, 31 and Hwy, 264. Be courteous and stay out of the way of the snowplows though, which are the lifeblood of Skyline.

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Upper Huntington Canyon is a long narrow corridor that funnels from south to north as it rises just north of Electric Lake along Hwy. 264. This road-side tour is best on post frontal days or any southeasterly direction. On light wind days you can do a car-to-car downwinder following the valley.

Sanpete Valley Overlook is near the summit of milepost 13 on Hwy. 31. Ridge-line tours run to Mt. Tom two miles south and continue for several miles

to Skyline Drive. Light days bring riders to this exposed ridge and sunset sessions are the call at this scenic spot.

Ephraim Canyon / Horseshoe Flat is an amazing backcountry area 13 miles from the road, typically requiring a snowmobile for access. The canyon

opens up at the top about 20 miles south of Sanpete Valley Overlook and from there you can choose your destiny based on the wind!

WIND WATER AND WEATHER Skyline is good for all wind directions, with a southwesterly breeze being the most common. Ten and 12 metre kites work best with the conditions kicking off as early as November and stretching until late May. Wind speed is moderate, averaging between nine and 17 knots. Wind temperatures can range from -20°C / 0°F to 5°C / 40°F so make sure you wrap up warm. Winter storms are prominent in November and December, although they can occur at any time. It's a good idea to keep a water bottle on you at all times as well as a compass just in case of white-out conditions.

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GET AROUND Car hire is definitely recommended for you to get to the different kiting spots with your gear.

Get local info for the area at www.sanpetecounty.org

ACCOMMODATION Accommodation can be either found here or in Fairview and Spring City – quiet

towns nestled at the base of the canyon in the valley below. Hotels, cabin rentals and B&Bs are all available.

FOOD AND DRINK Mt. Pleasant has a local supermarket where you can purchase most foods and there are also a choice of hearty local restaurants and fast food venues in this area. The Triangle Lounge is Skyline's only bar. Other kite areas have more bars to choose from, though.

NO WIND Snow-shoeing, skiing and snowmobiling are great non-wind activities. A day trip to San Rafael Swell leads to sandstone carryons and ancient Indian rock art. Check out Spring Citys art museum to see a Mammoth found in the late 80s.

AIRPORT Salt Lake City (SLC) airport is a 90 minute drive north.



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